

## Affiliation with CAMT

IN SUMMER 1966 AT THE Laurentian Leadership Conference sponsored by NCTM, Norman Goble of the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) spoke on the possible formation of a Canadian Mathematics Council. He informed the group that a conference was planned for March in Ottawa to discuss such a possibility and that provincial teachers' associations would be sending delegates. All this came as a complete surprise to the MCATA representatives, Marshall Bye and Joan Kirkpatrick.

At the October executive meeting, this proposal was thoroughly discussed, particularly regarding how it might affect our affiliation with NCTM. The general consensus was that we did not want to lose this affiliation and the services provided by the NCTM. The other aspect of the discussion centred on the fact that our parent body, the ATA, had made the initial proposal at a CTF meeting. The MCATA executive felt that the ATA should have discussed it with MCATA. A meeting between the ATA and MCATA was suggested.

In February 1967, Mr. McDonnell from the ATA attended the MCATA executive meeting to discuss our concerns and said that the purposes of such an association would be to

1. establish the primacy of the classroom teacher,
2. provide intercommunication within the profession in Canada and between the profession and other interested bodies,
3. provide for discussion and exchange of information, and
4. ensure that matters requiring a decision were returned to be dealt with by existing machinery within the provinces.

Also, the Canadian group would be an association of associations, not of individual members as with NCTM. The ATA was prepared to cover the expenses of two MCATA representatives to the organizational meeting in Ottawa in March; the MCATA executive decided to send a third delegate, so Marshall Bye, Gus Bruns and Ted Rempel attended. Gus Bruns attended another planning committee meeting in June 1967.

In October, executive members agreed to send delegates to the first annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Mathematics Teachers (CAMT) in Ottawa but were not ready to apply for membership until specific information on the financial responsibility of membership was forthcoming. Marshall Bye and Murray Falk attended as our delegates, with Gus Bruns attending at CAMT expense as a member of the planning committee. In January 1968, the representatives reported on the Ottawa Conference, at which Marshall Bye was appointed editor of CAMT publications. The financial obligation of membership would be \$300 per year, mainly used in a pooled travel budget. The executive decided to apply for membership. In March 1968, Marshall Bye attended another meeting to discuss CAMT's role. The MCATA executive felt that CAMT should not duplicate services of other groups but rather look for a unique function. Marshall was sent with some suggestions for 1968 annual meeting topics: inservice training of teachers in Canada; getting funds from Canadian organizations to aid in setting up nationwide programs; using CBC Television to reach teachers across Canada. Marshall reported that the group

AD 1859

Amédee Mannheim  
invents first  
modern slide rule.

AD 1878

Sam Loyd invents  
The Fifteen Puzzle.

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had decided to focus on using video tapes and TV to share information.

By June 1968, two CAMT newsletters had been prepared—the plates were made available so provincial organizations could cover printing and distributing. MCATA sent out the second newsletter.

During the 1968–69 year, CAMT made some efforts to videotape novel teaching experiments in Alberta, Ontario and Quebec, but no funds were available so the project was set aside. Departments of Education were asked to present their best educational television mathematics productions at the next conference in Toronto but were not given enough notice to include this in departmental budgets so that project was also abandoned. In March 1969, there was yet another Ottawa meeting to review CAMT's role; following much discussion, the MCATA executive decided to continue supporting CAMT and sent Marshall Bye to the meeting. In April 1969, Ed Olsen assumed the CAMT representative responsibilities. Again, there was much

discussion of the role and purpose of CAMT and of MCATA support. It was decided to reproduce the third CAMT newsletter for all members. Ed Olsen attended the annual CAMT meetings in Toronto in 1969, Winnipeg in 1970 and Montreal in 1971. During 1971, CAMT hoped to collect and distribute major articles from each province, possibly continuing on a yearly basis. In 1972, Stu McCormick became CAMT representative, and the executive agreed to support CAMT for another year. In January 1973, Stu reported that, at the annual meeting in December 1972, CAMT was dissolved due to lack of financial support.

For six years, MCATA had supported CAMT morally and financially, by sending representatives to all meetings, by contributing money for the pooled travel expenses and by printing and distributing newsletters. Over those years, more executive meeting time was devoted to discussions of CAMT than to any other “single-issue” discussion topic!

AD 1886

William Burroughs develops first commercially successful mechanical adding machine.

AD 1894

John Venn introduces Venn diagrams for use in set theory.



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